

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ARA/MEX:JFKEANE:MEM

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, MX

SUBJECT: US-MEXICO YOUNG TECHNICIANS EXCHANGE PROGRAM

REF: EMMERT/KEANE TELCON JULY 8

FOR EMMERT FROM KEANE

1. DEPARTMENT HAS CHECKED WITH DE ALBA OF MEXICAN EMBASSY, AND GENERAL ELECTRIC CONCERNING INQUIRY ABOUT STATUS OF ERNESTO IGUERA CASE. DE ALBA CONFIRMED WHAT I POINTED OUT IN TELCON, NAMELY THAT HE HAS TO DATE ONLY RECEIVED WORD FROM CONACYT THAT IGUERA IS A CANDIDATE FOR THE POSITION AT GENERAL ELECTRIC WHICH MARTINEZ RUBIO COULD NOT FILL. DE ALBA HAS NOT REPEAT NOT RECEIVED ANY INFORMATION ON IGUERA'S QUALIFICATIONS OR SPECIFIC INTERESTS, ETC., AND WAS A LITTLE SURPRISED AT THE VARGAS INQUIRY.

2. DE ALBA SPECULATED THAT VARGAS INQUIRY OF EMBASSY WAS MOTIVATED BY PERSONAL RATHER THAN PROFESSIONAL INTEREST (PERHAPS DUE TO A FRIENDSHIP WITH IGUERA), BECAUSE A) THE ESTABLISHED CHANNEL FOR THESE MATTERS IS THE MEXICAN

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EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON AND B) VARGAS IS NO LONGER INVOLVED

IN THE EXCHANGE PROGRAM; HE HAS EVIDENTLY MOVED TO ANOTHER POSITION IN CONACYT.

3. GENERAL ELECTRIC IS WILLING TO RECEIVE IGUERA IN PRINCIPLE, BUT MUST RECEIVE COMPLETE BACKGROUND DATA AND TRAINING PREFERENCE TO MAKE FINAL DECISION TO BE ABLE TO DESIGN TRAINING PROGRAM SUITED TO HIS NEEDS. HOWEVER, GE IS NOT WILLING TO RECEIVE IGUERA UNLESS HE RECEIVES ADEQUATE PER DIEM; THEY ARE ADAMANT ABOUT GOING THROUGH ANOTHER PROBLEM LIKE THAT OF MEXICAN TRAINEE RAMOS MARILES, WHO THROUGH NO FAULT OF HIS OWN BUT BECAUSE OF AN INADEQUATE STIPEND, HAS CREATED HEAVY WORKLOAD BURDEN FOR GE TRAINING OFFICER IN LOCATING SPECIAL LOW-COST LIVING AND EATING ACCOMODATIONS APART FROM OTHER GE TRAINEES AND QUOTE IN A HOTEL DOWNTOWN WHERE THE RATES ARE LOW BUT I (GE) AM VERY CONCERNED ABOUT THE ENVIRONMENT UNQUOTE. GE SAYS 25 DOLLARS PER DIEM WOULD BE SUFFICIENT FOR BOTH TRAINEES. DE ALBA IS AWARE OF RAMOS PROBLEM AND IS TRYING TO RESOLVE IT, BUT GE WILL NOT OFFER TRAINING TO ANOTHER CANDIDATE UNLESS PER DIEM QUESTION IS RESOLVED IN ADVANCE.

4. CARE SHOULD BE TAKEN TO INSURE THAT IGUERA, WHO HAS CONTRACT OFFER (TO TEACH?) AT THE POLITECNICA, IS NOT OVERQUALIFIED FOR THIS TRAINING, WHICH IS CLEARLY ONE FOR TECHNICIANS. CONACYT HAS DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF PROGRAM.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: PLS REQUEST CONACYT FORWARD CURRICULUM VIT AE, TRAINING PREFERENCES AND OTHER PERTINENT DATA ASAP TO DE ALBA. INGERSOLL

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